

Betsy Poulin

From: David@merkabasol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2016 5:38 PM
To: Matt Nazar
Cc: Betsy Poulin
Subject: "KBD1 Concerns about Land Use Ordinance Revisions"

Dear Mr. Nazar and Ms. Poulin

I am a merchant owner in Augusta and have been open on Water St for the last 5 plus years. I Have put all of my savings into it including my 401K from my previous job. I love this street and the community that is being built with all the fellow merchants and building owners. I have been subjected to many different scenarios most good but some not so good because of the climate down here. We are doing well (we joke "poor and happy") and hope to continue to grow. **It is all we have.** Now I understand that the planning board is attempting to make changes here to allow more expansion of the social services including group homes. I cannot iterate strong enough what that will do to viable business. Potential customers do not come down here as it is because of dealing with groups of people waiting to get into an already taxed soup kitchen. We fully understand the need for these services but there are other areas in which it would be a better fit. I urge the board to tread carefully with the decision and look at all other options for this. We are a hard working community down here and some will be forced to leave if this change is made. We hope that this is not the case. There are many areas that could handle the need with out taking away from the hard working men and women that are trying to keep this street alive.

Thank you for your consideration

David Hopkins

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